

- 4 (b) connecting a second home device to the home network;
- 5 (c) providing a database including a plurality of application interface
- 6 description data objects, each application interface description data object including
- 7 information for commanding and controlling of a home device by one or more other
- 8 home devices connected to the network;
- 9 (d) the second home device accessing a first application interface
- 10 description object for the first home device in the database;
- 11 (e) the first home device accessing a second application interface
- 12 description object for the second home device in the database;
- 13 (f) sending control and command data from the first home device to
- 14 the second home device utilizing said application interface description object for the
- 15 second home device over the network; and
- 16 (g) sending control and command data from the second home device to the
- 17 first home device utilizing said application interface description object for the first home
- 18 device over the network.

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1 2. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one application

2 interface description data object includes XML format.

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- 1 9. (Amended) A network system for providing a service, comprising:
- 2 (a) a physical layer, wherein the physical layer provides a
- 3 communication medium that can be used by devices to communicate with each other;
- 4 (b) first home device;
- 5 (c) a second home device;
- 6 (d) a database including a plurality of application interface description
- 7 data objects, each application interface description data object including information for

8 commanding and controlling of a home device by one or more other devices connected
9 to the network; wherein:

10 the second home device includes application control means for accessing
11 a first application interface description object for the first home device in the database
12 and sending control and command data from the second home device to the first home
13 device utilizing said first application interface description object; and

14 the first home device includes application control means for accessing a
15 second application interface description object for the second home device in the
16 database and sending control and command data from the first home device to the
17 second home device utilizing said second application interface description object[;

18 whereby the first and second home devices perform said service].

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1 10. (Amended) The network system of claim 9 wherein at least one
2 application interface description data object includes XML format.

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1 12. (Amended) The network system of claim 11 wherein:

2 (i) the first home device stores first application interface description
3 object therein;

4 (ii) the second home device stores second application interface
5 description object therein; and

6 (iii) said database device forms said data base by querying the first
7 and second home devices to transfer said first and second application interface
8 description objects, respectively, to the database device.

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10 17. (Amended) The network system of claim 16 wherein the structured format
11 includes XML format.

Please add the following new claims:

1 18. The method of claim 1 wherein step (c) further includes the steps of
2 providing an agent that creates the data base.
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1 19. The method of claim 1 wherein step (c) further includes the steps of
2 providing an agent that creates the data base by obtaining the application interface
3 description data object of each device and storing it in the database.
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1 20. The network system of claim 9 further including an agent that creates the
2 data base.
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1 21. The network system of claim 9 further including an agent that creates the
2 data base by obtaining the application interface description data object of each device
3 and storing it in the database.
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1 22. In a network system for providing a service, the network system including
2 a physical layer, wherein the physical layer provides a communication medium that can
3 be used by devices connected to the layer to communicate with each other, a controller
4 comprising an agent that generates a database accessible by said devices, the
5 database including a plurality of application interface description data objects, each
6 application interface description data object including information for commanding and

controlling of a home device by one or more other home devices connected to the network, whereby a first device can access an application interface description object for another device in the database and send control and command data to that other device utilizing said application interface description object, such that the two devices perform said service.

23. A method for performing a service on a home network, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) connecting a first home device to the home network;
- (b) connecting a second home device to the home network;
- (c) providing a database including a plurality of application interface description data objects, each application interface description data object including information for commanding and controlling of a home device by one or more other home devices connected to the network;
- (d) the first home device accessing an application interface description object for the second home device in the database; and
- (e) the first device sending control and command data to the second home device utilizing said application interface description object for the second home device over the network, whereby the first and second home devices autonomously perform said service.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein step (c) includes connecting a database device to the network, wherein the database device stores said database.

25. The method of claim 24 wherein:

- (i) the second home device stores its application interface data

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therein; and

(iii) step (c) includes an initial step of forming said database by steps including querying the second home device to transfer said application interface data for the second home devices to the database device.

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26. The method of claim 23 wherein step (d) includes providing the application interface description object for the second home device from the database to the first home device over the network.

27. The method of claim 23 further comprising the steps of connecting three or more home devices to the network, wherein at least one home device accesses the database to query the application interface description objects of a plurality of home devices for sending command and control data to the plurality of home devices over the network
